General Education: The Human Community
Requirements Checklist

In the liberal arts tradition, General Education: The Human Community aspires to create informed global citizens of the 21st century. We challenge our community of students and faculty to engage in personal and collective reflection, development, and action.

All undergraduate students, regardless of their major or pre-professional program, must complete 41 credit hours of general education coursework.

Cluster One: Skills for the 21st Century
(9 credit hours and Information Literacy Requirement)

Cluster One is the cornerstone of The Human Community at JMU in that students develop skills that facilitate inquiring, learning, thinking and communicating in their personal, academic and civic lives. All first year students must complete Cluster One, which includes three courses and the Information Literacy Requirement, during their first year at JMU.

INFORMATION LITERACY REQUIREMENT

Test is taken in Ashby Lab on the Quad

The information literacy requirement is a Cluster One and graduation requirement. All first year students must complete it by the designated deadline. Transfer students whose GenEd requirements are not waived by an approved associate’s degree must complete the test within their first year of entry at JMU. Click here for a list of approved associate degrees. For additional information go to http://www.jmu.edu/gened/infor_lit_general.shtml

☐ Madison Research Essential Skills Test (MREST) deadline for completion is 02/28/2014

Complete one course in each of three areas (courses may be taken in any order):

___ Critical Thinking (C1CT**) - Choose one of the following:

☐ GBUS 160  Business Decision Making in a Modern Society
☐ GHIST 150  Critical Issues in Recent Global History
☐ GISAT 160  Problem Solving Approaches in Science and Technology
☐ GMAD 150  Mediated Communication: Issues and Skills
☐ GPHIL 120  Critical Thinking
☐ GPHIL 150  Ethical Reasoning

___ Human Communication (C1HC**) - Choose one of the following:

☐ GCOM 121  Human Communication: Presentations
☐ GCOM 122  Human Communication: Individual Presentations
☐ GCOM 123  Human Communication: Group Presentations

___ Writing (C1W**)

☐ GWRTC 103  Critical Reading and Writing

** denotes the GenEd Search Code in MyMadison
Cluster Two: Arts and Humanities
(9 credit hours)

Cluster Two shows students what it means to live lives enriched by reflection, imagination, and creativity. It does so by offering each individual a multidisciplinary experience within the arts and humanities, those areas of endeavor that humans have long valued for their intrinsic worth and that invite a deeper appreciation of the human experience.

Complete one course in each of three areas (courses may be taken in any order):

___ Human Questions and Contexts (C2HQC**) - Choose one of the following:
- GAMST 200 Introduction to American Studies
- GANTH 205 Buried Cities and Lost Tribes
- GHIST 101 World History to 1500
- GHIST 102 World History since 1500
- GHUM 102 God, Meaning, and Morality
- GHUM 250 Foundations of Western Culture (options include: Greek, Renaissance)
- GHUM 251 Modern Perspectives (options include: Enlightenment, Romanticism, Human Rights)
- GHUM 252 Cross-Cultural Perspectives (options include: East Asian, West African, Latin American, Islamic)
- GPHIL 101 Introduction to Philosophy
- GREL 101 Religions of the World

___ Visual and Performing Arts (C2VPA**) - Choose one of the following:
- GART 200 Art in General Culture
- GARTH 205 Survey of World Art I: Prehistoric to Renaissance
- GARTH 206 Survey of World Art II: Renaissance to Modern
- GMUS 200 Music in General Culture
- GMUS 203 Music in America
- GMUS 206 Introduction to Global Music
- GTHEA 210 Introduction to Theatre

___ Literature (C2L**) - Choose one of the following:
- GENG 221 Literature/Culture/Ideas
- GENG 222 Genre(s)
- GENG 235 Survey of English Literature: From Beowulf to the 18th Century
- GENG 236 Survey of English Literature: 18th Century to Modern
- GENG 239 Studies in World Literature
- GENG 247 Survey of American Literature: From the Beginning to the Civil War
- GENG 248 Survey of American Literature: From the Civil War to the Modern Period
- GENG 260 Survey of African-American Literature
- GHUM 200 Great Works (topics vary by course section)

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**Study Abroad for General Education**

Many courses offered in JMU’s Study Abroad Programs fulfill General Education requirements. For a list of approved JMU courses, consult the Study Abroad link at [http://www.jmu.edu/gened/abroad.shtml](http://www.jmu.edu/gened/abroad.shtml). Dr. Margaret M. Mulrooney (mulroomm@jmu.edu), Associate Vice Provost, can provide additional information about approvals for non-JMU courses.
Cluster Three: The Natural World  
(10 credit hours)

Cluster Three provides students with the opportunity to develop problem-solving skills in science and mathematics at the college level. Students will be introduced to a substantial body of scientific facts, concepts, models, and theories and will also gain experience in using basic mathematics to obtain knowledge about the natural world.

Select Track I or Track II

**Track I:**
Complete one course in each of three groups and the Lab Requirement. Courses may be taken in any order, except courses denoted by an asterisk (*) which require a **Group 1** (mathematics) and/or **Group 2** (science) prerequisite or corequisite. (See the Undergraduate Catalog course descriptions for specific requirements.)

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**Group 1 (C3T1G1**) - Choose one of the following:

- GISAT 151  Topics in Applied Calculus in ISAT
- GISAT 251  Topics in Statistics in ISAT
- MATH 103  The Nature of Mathematics
- MATH 205  Introductory Calculus I
- MATH 220  Elementary Statistics
- MATH 231  Calculus with Functions I
- MATH 235  Calculus I

**Group 2 (C3T1G2**) - Choose one of the following:

- CHEM 120  Concepts of Chemistry
- CHEM 131  General Chemistry I  (CHEM 131L required lab corequisite)
- GISAT 100  Issues in Energy and the Environment
- GISAT 112  Environmental Issues in Science and Technology (includes lab)
- GSCI 101*  Physics, Chemistry and the Human Experience
- GSCI 121  The Physical Nature of Light and Sound (includes lab)
- PHYS 140  College Physics I  (PHYS 140L required lab corequisite)
- PHYS 215*  Energy and the Environment
- PHYS 240  University Physics I  (PHYS 140L required lab corequisite)

**Lab Requirement** - Choose one of the following:

- Group 2 course that includes a lab
- Group 3 course that includes a lab
- GSCI 104*  Scientific Perspectives  (some sections have pre- or corequisites)

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**Group 3 (C3T1G3**) - Choose one of the following:

- ASTR 120  The Solar System (formerly PHYS 120)
- ASTR 121  Stars, Galaxies and Cosmology
- BIO 114  Organisms (includes lab)
- BIO 222  Biology for Engineering and Physical Sciences
- BIO 270*  Human Physiology (includes lab)
- GANTH 196  Biological Anthropology
- GBI0 103  Contemporary Biology
- GEOL 110  Physical Geology  (GEOL 110L required lab corequisite)
- GEOL 200  Evolutionary Systems (includes lab)
- GEOL 210*  Applied Physical Geology
- GEOL 211  Introduction to Oceanography
- GGEOL 102  Environment: Earth
- GGEOL 115  Earth Systems and Climate Change
- GISAT 113  Biotechnological Issues in Science and Technology (includes lab)
- GPSYC 122  The Science of Vision and Audition

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**Track II:**  
(This track primarily serves IdLS majors):

Complete all of the following:
MATH 107 must be taken prior to GSCI 163; GSCI 161 and 162 are corequisites; GSCI 163 and 164 are corequisites. Corequisite pairs may be taken in any order.

- MATH 107  Fundamentals of Mathematics I
- GSCI 161  Science Processes
- GSCI 162  The Science of the Planets
- GSCI 163  The Matter of Matter
- GSCI 164  Physical Science: Learning Through Teaching
- GSCI 165  The Way Life Works
Cluster Four: Social and Cultural Processes  
*(7 credit hours)*

Cluster Four helps students become critical thinkers about their own societies and the larger global community. These courses examine the key social and cultural processes and structures that shape the human experience.

Complete one course in each of two areas *(courses may be taken in any order).*

___**The American Experience (C4AE**) (4 credit hours)* - Choose one of the following:

- GHIST 225  U.S. History
- GJUST 225  Justice and American Society
- GPOSC 225*  U.S. Government

___**The Global Experience (C4GE**) (3 credit hours)* - Choose one of the following:

- GAFST 200  Introduction to Africana Studies
- GANTH 195  Cultural Anthropology
- GECON 200  Macroeconomics
- GGEOG 200  Geography: the Global Dimension
- GPOSC 200*  Global Politics
- GSOCI 110  Social Issues in a Global Context

* Students who enroll in both GPOSC 225 and GPOSC 200 may only count one of these courses for General Education credit.

Cluster Five: Individuals in the Human Community  
*(6 credit hours)*

Cluster Five helps students learn about themselves as individuals and as members of different communities. Students explore how individuals develop and function in the social, psychological, emotional, physical and spiritual dimensions.

Complete one course in each of the two areas *(courses may be taken in any order).*

___**Wellness Domain (C5W**) - Choose one of the following:**

- GHTH 100  Personal Wellness
- GKIN 100  Lifetime Fitness and Wellness  
  (fitness options include swim conditioning, indoor cycling, cardio/strength, yoga, boot camp or others)

___**Sociocultural Domain (C5SD**) - Choose one of the following:**

- GPSYC 101  General Psychology
- GPSYC 160  Life Span Human Development
- GSOCI 140  Microsociology: The Individual in Society

Questions?  
Contact the General Education Program via email at gened@jmu.edu or call (540) 568-2852. For additional information about the General Education Program, visit our website at http://www.jmu.edu/gened/